

# Department of Veterans Affairs

## Pharmacy Benefits Management Strategic Healthcare Group

### **Prescribing and Dispensing Information for Sildenafil (Viagra ®)**

The following information regarding the use of sildenafil within the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) reflects discussion and actions by VHA's Policy Board and approved by the Deputy Undersecretary for Health:

- **Sildenafil** is available within the VHA through the VA National Formulary within the context of the approved guideline, "The Primary Treatment of Erectile Dysfunction" and sound clinical judgment. The guideline is a tool for the physician to determine if his or her patients are candidates for sildenafil therapy. Please refer to the guideline for a thorough discussion of erectile dysfunction and the various treatment options available. It is the responsibility of the physician to ensure the patient meets the criteria for sildenafil use and that the patient understands the choices for the treatment of ED and the associated potential risks and benefits.

In the interest of patient safety, VA will only honor sildenafil prescriptions written by VA prescribers after an appropriate clinical evaluation. In addition, associated with the clinical evaluation, the following also apply:

- Sildenafil prescriptions are limited to **4 doses per month**.
- Lost prescriptions will not be replaced in the time period they are intended for, a refill, if authorized, will be made available at the next scheduled refill date.
- Any adverse or untoward events associated with the use of sildenafil must be reported locally. Copies of the local report must be forwarded to the Pharmacy Benefits Strategic Healthcare Group (PBM).